

The date on which your subscription expires will be found on the wrapper.
The paper will be stopped on that day unless previously renewed.
No bills or receipt sent to individual subscribers.

The People.

Agents sending in subscriptions without remittance must state distinctly how long they are to run.
Agents are personally charged with and held responsible for unpaid subscription sent in by them.
Only duly elected and approved agents acknowledged.

VOL. IX.—NO. 42.

HENRY KUHN, Nat'l Sec'y, S.L.P.

NEW YORK, JANUARY 14, 1900.

PRICE 2 CENTS.

THIRD LETTER.

In the Trial of the Miners at Vienna, Ill.

A Specimen of Capitalists—The Tax-Paying Middle Class' Hands in the Trial—Upper and Nether Capitalists Playing Shuttlecock and Battledore with the Workingman—A Penny-saving Capitalist Judge's Menu.

VIENNA, Ill., Jan. 6.

Mr. John Barney:
Dear Fellow Toller,—I told you in my first letter that "this trial of the miners as it proceeded would furnish abundance of sledge hammer blows in driving the truth into your thinking box." This court still continues to turn out a big batch of these blows.

You know, John, that we are told that we could do nothing without the capitalists. This question has three sides:

(1) Is the capitalist class necessary?

(2) If necessary, have we got the best men performing the duties of capitalists?

(3) If not, can we get them?

By innumerable instances has THE PEOPLE shown the capitalists to have become useless to society. I will repeat only one of them here: Suppose every capitalist to emigrate to Mars. They could not take the land, machinery, air, sunshine and water. There would be nobody left but the wage class to take possession of them. As they could not divide these instruments of production among themselves, they would be forced to own and use them collectively; that is, in an organized capacity. Now, can you give any reason why, with our assistance, this land, machinery, etc., would not produce just as much for our own benefit after Mr. Capitalist had emigrated to Mars as before?

If this is not sufficient evidence, and if we show we have not got the best men, but rather the worst, performing the duties of capitalists, and that we can't get any better under capitalism, then we can't use them at all; hence the capitalists are still useless.

If a scientist wants to learn the moral, intellectual and physical development of an extinct race, he first gets a type of this race to study from. This could be a skull that he had discovered in some of their catacombs. Now, John, I have been searching many years for a true type of the capitalist class. I have at last found it. This type is Samuel Brush, who owns the mines at Carverville, Ill., where the strike riot occurred, and who was the prosecuting witness in the trial I am writing you. Let us study this type, and see if the capitalist class are the best to perform the duties of Captains of Industry.

This Brush is tall and gaunt, with stooped shoulders, or rather a head and shoulder that appears to be reaching out for something, like that of a lion just about to leap for its prey. During the trial he kept a steady gaze on the witnesses while testifying, like a cat watches the hole of a mouse. His gait is stealthy, like that of the night marauder. He rises with a suddenness from his seat that is suggestive of his having suddenly discovered a new scheme to fleece the working class. He has peaked features; the eyes of a cat, the mouth of a bulldog; and the general bearing of a beast of prey. To lighten his appearance, he has a purple wart hanging from his left cheek, nearly the size of a goose egg. I fear you will not credit my description of this capitalist, but it is true to the letter, even to the wart. I do not intend to ridicule any one's deformity. As Brush's class has reaped all the fruits of capitalism, and his class is the embodiment of all its sins, its members surely should not complain to stand some of its boomerangs. Ellis in his work on "Criminals," says: "Ugly and deformed faces are to be suspected."

When Brush was put upon the witness stand, he showed himself to be a person of very small and mean caliber. To such an extent did he insist on rehearsing insignificant details, that even the judge more than once had to reprimand him. Through his whole testimony he showed extreme violence, especially when he, with school boy brazenness, showed the jury how he had led into the mob. But he fired from behind cover.

We are told that the capitalists are much sharper than the working class. Particularly is this the case with Brush. So many sharp points has he upon his features that you could hang your shins on some of them. Often the working class have their whole bodies covered with these points. But these points originate from different causes. Brush's arises from extreme gluttony, and the wage worker from extreme enforced fasting.

Now, John, look at this type again and tell me if you do not think a far better type can be furnished from the wage class. From this type, don't you think the capitalist class are unfit to fill the duties of "Captains of Industry"? I think, to put it mildly, we have not got the best men of this country to fill these duties.

The third question is, can we, as long as the private ownership in the instruments of production continues, get the

best, or even better, men to fill the duties of capitalists? To remove all the capitalists would not accomplish anything, as their sons would fall into their shoes; and as they are still more enervated than their fathers, we would be making a "bad swap." It would do no good to vote other capitalists to take their places, as they would still be capitalists, with all the instincts of the capitalist to get the greatest part of the working man's hide. And here we are, John, apparently left in a dilemma. Here we are in overwhelming proof that the capitalists are useless. On top of this, Brush said on the witness stand, under oath, that he only saw his mines every six months. If we can do without him for six months, we can do without him for all time. Conceding for a moment that the capitalist class is necessary, we still see that we have not got the best, but rather the worst, men of the nation to fill the places of the capitalists, and that we cannot get any better ones under present arrangement of production and distribution.

"Then," I think I hear you ask, "what shall we do to be saved?" Go to the polls next election and vote the Socialist Labor Party ticket. And when the whole of the working people vote it, then all the instruments of production will be transferred from the capitalist class to the working class as collective property, and the capitalists will cease to be capitalists, and will have to become useful members of society, or die of hunger.

You have often expressed your wrath at the big capitalists, or as you called them, the monopolists and plutocrats. You also have expressed sympathy for the little capitalists, or middle class, the farmers, merchants, etc. As most of the citizens of the country where the riot-strike took place were of the middle class, or tax-payers, the lawyers for the defence found they could not get an impartial jury, and the trial was transferred to another county. I fear you will infer from this that this middle class thought these miners to be a more desperate set than the Jesse James gang. Not at all. They wanted to wring the miners' necks to save their taxes. One of this middle class said to me one day:

"I tell you, friend, these strikes are taxing us to death. The trials of these miners will bankrupt this county and break us all up in business. They ought to hang every son of a— of these strikers, and teach the rest a lesson."

And this is the class you helped out at the polls last election; a bankrupt class that you helped to pay their debts and their taxes. The big capitalists bring out the gatling guns to keep you in the bowels of the earth at their own prices, and the little capitalists sit in judgment in the jury box to break your necks because you won't submit to these prices.

And that's not all, John. Your union is paying seven scamps of lawyers and other expense amounting to about \$50,000, to see that if the strikers' necks be broken, they be broken according to "law and order." Should their necks be saved, you will then be forced into another strike; your craft again thrown into jail, and the lawyers again get another small fortune. And all taken out of the mouths of miners' wives and children.

Fighting capitalists outside of the ballot box acts as an incubator to hatch out lawyers' fees and salaries for a horde of capitalist officials. And just here I would like to mention the six o'clock dinner given by the Judge of this Court last night to the lawyers. This Judge belongs to the little capitalists. He is famous for his long dissertations to the working class on temperance, frugality and industry. One of his cherished maxims is, "A penny saved is a penny made." Let us see how he, himself, practices this maxim. The following is the bill of fare of this Judge's six o'clock dinner:

Blue Points en Coquilles.
Celerie.
Queen Olives.
Haute Sauternes.
Bouillon en tasse.
Salted Almonds.
Campano Grille Maitre d'Hotel.
Concombres.
Chou-fleur à la Champignons.
Choux-fleurs à la Hollandaise.
St. Julien.
Purée au Canapé au Cresson.
Asperges, Sauce Blanche.
Tomato Salad in Form.
Dry Champagne.
Framage.
Cognac.
Cigars.

It is Menu-Judge took great offense at the first letter I wrote you. The thing that stuck in his craw was my expression, "capitalist court" and my showing up of the antagonism of the classes. He has been saying in reply that "there are no capitalists in this part of the country"; "there are no classes here"; "all our citizens are on an equality." Now, John, if you will go with me one block from the Judge's residence, I will show you families living in extreme poverty. The Judge's menu gives the lie on the face of it. These little capitalists are in constant dread that the wage class will discover them not only to be skinnners, but worse skinnners than even the big capitalists. For illustration, some of the farmers in this part of Illinois get their "hands" out at 3 o'clock in the morning and work them till 9 o'clock at night. Some of the merchants of this town pay their labor 50 cents a day and board themselves.

JOHN PROLETARIAN.

Party members and sympathizers desiring to aid the establishment of THE DAILY PEOPLE should apply to the Party organizations of their respective localities for circulars, supplies and stamps. Subdivisions may obtain same from Sections, and the Sections from their respective State Committees, and the latter, or in the absence of the latter, the Sections directly from the DAILY PEOPLE Conference.

The Phenomenon of the Social Democracy.

Its Origin and its Tendencies.

By S. S., Boston, Mass.

Many Comrades throughout the country have wholly misunderstood the Social Democratic Party. This was the result of several causes, but principally for the reason that conditions in Massachusetts were not studied. As a party it is local. The so-called national officers have nothing to do with its course of action, and the members in this State recognize no union with voters in other parts of the country. There is, and continues to be, identity of interests only in such places as offer opportunities to politicians. The Party did not rise in a night, nor is it an offshoot from the organized ranks of the working class. A fatal mistake is made when its origin is attributed to those persons who were expelled from the Socialist Labor Party. The way has long been open for this movement, and it has its own social base, distinct from and antagonistic to all parties founded on the necessities of the working class. What it drew from us was its right. What it has in turn given us was ours by right, and we must look upon it in the same light and as appealing to the same interests as all other parties which are inimical to the wage workers. We have often been misled by Socialistic cries, and in this case the only thing that could turn us back to a study of its history and truth is the insistence of that cry of Socialism.

The approach of the Presidential campaign makes it necessary for us to estimate correctly the political antagonists with whom we are to wrestle. Thus it is obligatory for us to look at this new "Socialist Party" from all sides, and find the reasons for its peculiar, shifting, evasive, timorous attitude. The contrast between its abject servility and its boasting bravado, its bowing to popular fallacies, and then its attempts to crawl along the lines of progress prove that it is a shifting phase of the class struggle. Above all other things, the rapid growth of that party in a few localities, its tone of "respectability," and its great success in city elections have blinded many Comrades to the facts in the case. It could not proceed from a class conscious organization. It could not, on the other hand, rise until certain economic conditions in a class which the S. L. P. did not touch had ripened to such an extent that those conditions must manifest themselves in political action. We live in an age when the drama of life is played in the full glare of the political foot-lights. We shall, however, misapprehend this modern morality unless we go behind the scene and discover the source of the actors' inspiration or necessity. It is also of the utmost importance that we find the real reasons that lead the actors to trick themselves out in their fearful and wonderful trumpery. The high sounding words, the tearful pleas, the bombastic promises of the stump throw little light on the real intentions of a party. It is only when we throw them aside and probe deep into the conditions which bring it before society that we can arrive at safe and truthful conclusions. The Social Democratic Party marks the groping of a comparatively large body of men; men with opposing interests; men with objective points as far asunder as pole is from pole. When we penetrate its accidents and study it in its naked essence, we find that its springs are distinctly bourgeois. We find further that it decked itself out in Socialistic costumes, not because the condition of the working class was of any moment, but because the force, the intelligence and the numbers of the working class were necessary to sustain its intellectual and numerical weakness. There is no doubt but that, as a party, it is a protest against Capitalism as it CULMINATES, but it is the protest of the righteously doomed. It is the momentary juncture of a class staggering to ruin, together with certain corrupt or undeveloped members of a class which is steadily rising to power.

Economic Conditions.

The capitalist development of Massachusetts is as high as that of any State in the Union. Its evolution has been rapid, change unceasingly succeeding change, so that the individual producer, the small producer, the medium producer and the present gigantic producer overlap. We have wreckage from each of the three first conditions, and its accumulation and the bitterness of its position are the strings whereon the Social Democratic Party hangs. These survivals have hope of a change which will free them from the slavery which they fear, but, as a whole, the members look backward and not forward. Their "Onward to the Co-operative Commonwealth" when reduced to proper terms, means, "Back to the good old days when we were a power in the land; back to the days which allowed us to rob one or two workmen; back, lest we perish." As a class it yet retains a little of the wealth wrung from the workers in the days of its pulsance. The revolution threatens these holdings, small and miserable though they are, and, therefore, as a class, it fears lest the whole program of Socialism be carried out. No longer useful to society, it lacks the means to reintrench itself; and its last hope is that a mild state of Socialism will lighten the burdens of taxes which slowly crush it.

The means of transportation and communication act as a loadstone to draw the attention of the middle class. They are taxed for only a fraction of their

value, and, in comparison with the usual rate of cities and towns, they may be said to go untaxed. If once the State took possession of them, then, as money making concerns run by the State, they could, with their earnings, wipe out the real estate and personal property tax altogether. The middle class, by insisting on this, hope also to create more government positions, more berths which they can use for the benefit of their families, and more and greater opportunities to use the State for private ends. They have been beaten down from a position of power and to-day they are brought face to face with absolute ruin. The Social Democrats hate the capitalist class, but it is the hatred of the small robber who has in turn been beaten and robbed by one larger and stronger than himself. They do not love the working class, but they hope to use it for their own ends. They cajole the working class, but yet there is a fear of it that must end in open hatred. The conflict of interests was hushed by the hope of further conquests after the victory in the city of Haverhill. The instinct of self-preservation led them to organize a party on the lines of the party in Haverhill, and to appeal to the same elements that had there successfully victimized the voters.

The first glimpse of the party in action is deceptive. It seems to stand forth ready to battle with capitalism to the death. When we look through this shimmer of heroism, we find that the men are not lined up for war, but for show. The exponents of the party's principles, without a single exception, insist on the interests of the middle class. They have raised no point of interest to the men who have nothing to sell but their labor power. They have at all times avoided mention of the causes of the deplorable condition of the workers. They have consistently taught false economies, and have sought to placate where they should seek to destroy. The members are armed with olive branches,—and these are the weapons they train against the system! Absolute conquest, earnest desire to overthrow the present methods of wealth production never enter their plan of campaign excepting as a means to deceive. The first idea is to placate by proving that Socialism does not mean the extinction of the capitalist class; the second is to throw society back to the condition of fifty years ago; the third and central idea is to place themselves in power.

The Political Side.

The Republican Party, standing staunchly by and for the capitalist class, nevertheless, offered at one time some hope to the little man. This swarm of producers on a small scale looked upon protective tariff, anti-immigration, reciprocity, etc., as something which would assist them. These issues worked themselves down to the ground, but the men still stuck to Republicanism, and still the pressure became stronger. There was a flurry and an apparent breaking up of the party, and populism, indifference, reform and "progressive" measures were rife. Their unrest was caused wholly by the fact that they were in a party with which they had no common interest. The industrial cheese-mites received the promises; the large businessmen received, as was their due, the actual benefit. The campaign of 1896 shattered the Populist Party, and threw the Democrats out of joint. The sweeping victory was fatal to the Republicans, because the voters now tried to insist on performance in the matter of restoring prosperity. The war of extension of markets and the foisting of goods upon semi-barbarous lands do not help the middle class. Its members are no longer a factor in commerce, and many of them have very little more than the income derived from their own labor. The Social Democratic Party is the last desperate hope of the reactionary elements of society. It is the only refuge of our social impotents.

How They Hide Their Weakness.

When an individual, a tribe, a nation or a race is no longer in line with the movement of society, it at once becomes a prey to all men. The individual is robbed or killed. The tribe is either exterminated or enslaved. The nation is invaded, its property confiscated, and its inhabitants become slaves or serfs. A race when conquered is usually incorporated as inferiors in the conquering race. To-day, when a class is destroyed the wealth which it possessed goes to the capitalist class, and the members gravitate to the wage-working class. There is no show of violence; but it is thoroughly effective. When it lost its dominating position in society, it was also broken morally and intellectually. This leaves it open to the wiles of political adventurers, and in the financial world, the bucket shops, the land booms, the investment companies and the ten per cent. dividend associations are rapidly squeezing the few remaining dollars.

The capitalist class understands its position and stands by it. The working class, unfortunately, has not as yet advanced to the point of consciousness. Therefore, the middle class must rely on the ignorance and prejudices of the wage workers. The whole army,—the clergymen who are not up in improved methods of soul-saving; the lawyers, doctors, householders, and little business men line up behind the proletarian army and furnish the battle cries. Were the movement to be seen in its true light

it could not stand for a day. As the necessity for it to act comes, so surely must come its downfall.

The Social Democratic Party has all the elements which lie between the absolutely propertyless workers and the capitalist who is efficient under prevailing conditions. There are some few of the men who work for wages and who yet hold real estate for rent, who have bank accounts or who hold investments in different concerns. That holding is nearer and dearer to them than the hope of greater advantages in the future. The lame chicken of popular philosophy is a reality. A man will do more and suffer more for his sick child than he will for all his other children. The same is true of property. It may be comparatively worthless, and its loss may be inevitable, but that does not prevent the possessor from fighting for it, from suffering for it, and from attempting to make others fight and suffer also.

Economic and social conditions forced the State of Massachusetts to undertake some very large public works. The construction of these necessitated the expenditure of vast sums of money. The capitalists hold the bonds issued, and, as they are efficient tax-dodgers, the increased tax-rate did not harm them. The smaller men, however, cannot hide the little they have, and the tax rate has been swamping them. Even the matter of high license in the liquor traffic is significant. The limiting of the number of saloons increases their size, and, as a consequence, the difficulties of owning one. All avenues having been closed; it being no longer possible to start a bar-room with a few hundred dollars; a shoe shop with a side of leather, a lasting jack and two knives; a currying shop with a pet calf and a pound of bark; or a grocery store with a gallon of molasses and a few potatoes; that being no longer possible, those who have something above their dinner must make the most of it, and must fight harder and with greater cost to themselves for its protection than they would to revolutionize industry. Returns from banks and investments are inadequate, and, therefore, our survivors look to the State. Society must be turned into an absolutely safe investment concern, and public utilities, such as the telephone, railroads—both steam and electric,—etc., must be made to yield a profit. The Post Office must be put upon a paying basis, and out of the returns of money invested and government positions assured, the S. D. P. hopes to retrieve its fallen fortunes.

Something like twenty years ago Joseph Cook refuted a long string of "Socialistic" ideas. He proved that society could not borrow money enough to buy the earth because no one would lend it; that when it was bought—supposing it to happen—it would not pay, because no one would give any money for its use; that the poor would be degraded by such State help; that co-operation was the thing necessary. You cannot refute his arguments if you take the position he took, and the S. D. P. stands and appeals from that very position. As you listen to their words and study their ideas, the conclusion is forced upon you that they have used the Boston Monday Lectures of Joseph Cook as a text-book of political economy. Every one of their speakers borrowed money at 2 per cent. on account of the tremendous amount they would need. They all showed how taxes could be eliminated by the ownership of the street railroads alone. Their winning card was the great relief Socialism would be to the poor.

The leaders of the party do not pretend that it is a working class movement. John Chase, Mayor of Haverhill, admits that they have capitalists in their ranks—but they are "good capitalists." In reply to a question asked by me, he said, with as much venom and bitterness as a human voice and face could hold, "You forget that there are other classes in the world who have rights and necessities." Coulter, of Brockton, announces that his whole effort will be directed towards lowering the tax-rate. Governor Crane, though he claims to be a Republican, can stand on this part of the S. D. P. platform. He, too, imitating Coulter and Chase, will assist in lowering the taxes. Poor Massachusetts! Its great municipal and State works, initiated to avoid the unemployed issue, have pressed heavier and heavier upon the middle class, and Democrats, Social-Democrats, reformers, "purity leagues," and Republicans all join hands to save it. It is difficult to calculate the number of men employed upon these great works, but it is large enough to be a reactionary power if any attempt at curtailment is made. Carey, in the Great and General Court, plays for the poor little business man, and the poor little business man's followers and dupes, by voting for and supporting the infamous Dubuque bill, the dirtiest piece of collection legislation ever passed. Putney left the S. L. P. because he believed that the "superior intelligence" of the middle class—as manifested in gold brick schemes—was necessary for the social revolution. MacArtney, of Rockland, is in favor of co-operative stores, and is convinced that they alone will settle the problem. Thus, through the whole list we find that there is one dominating desire—relieve the little man from the pressure to which he is subjected.

The "Little Home" Fellow.

There is another class that has been swept into the stream, and he stands first on the list—the "little home" fellow. Those who have followed the history of strikes during the past few years know that there are two kinds of scabs, if we leave for the moment any consideration of the professional. There is the man who goes into the shop because he has nothing and is starving. There is also the man who goes into the shop because he has something, and fears to lose it. The first man to stampede a strike is the one who walks about the "little home" that he has partly paid for. There never has been a strike

(Continued on page 4.)

THE VOTE.

Arizona	1899	1898
Alabama	71	344
California	344	7,780
Colorado	7,780	2,054
Connecticut	2,054	3,664
Illinois	3,664	4,507
Indiana	4,507	1,795
Iowa	1,795	763
Kansas	763	646
Kentucky	646	394
Maryland	394	508
Massachusetts	508	10,063
Michigan	10,063	3,190
Minnesota	3,190	1,687
Missouri	1,687	1,063
Nebraska	1,063	248
New Hampshire	248	407
New Jersey	407	5,458
New York	5,458	24,231
Ohio	24,231	5,910
Pennsylvania	5,910	4,318
Rhode Island	4,318	2,941
Texas	2,941	562
Utah	562	261
Virginia	261	528
Washington	528	1,323
Wisconsin	1,323	1,477

Total 85,289 82,204

In the above list, the heavy type indicates the Socialist Labor vote polled this year, and the States in which the vote was polled. In the other States there was no election this year.

The total S. L. P. strength in the country shows, accordingly, for 1899, an increase of 3,254.

Apart from the increase in the total poll, the list records the spread of the Party over two new territories—the State of Utah and the Territory of Arizona, thus giving the Party a foothold in 27 States and Territories of the Union.

Primary Lesson

On Fundamental Principles in the Labor Movement.

Do you see the man?
I see the man.
What is the man doing, standing there?

He is doing nothing; simply looking for work.

Why does he not go to work? Is he lazy?

No, sir; he is not lazy, but he does not work because no one needs his services. For what reason do people work? People work to supply Nature's wants; that is, for food, clothing, shelter, etc.

Has the man, then, a sufficiency of those things that he does not work?

No, sir; he has but little of any of those things, and stands in constant fear of want.

Since, then, the man has but little of those things, and since the object of work is to produce them, why does he not go to work?

Because no one wishes to employ him.

Is the man not free to work when and where he pleases?

No, sir; he is not.

Why can the man not work to produce things he wants, or things exchangeable for what he wants, when he desires to?

Because the means of labor are not accessible to him, being owned by a small, and growing smaller, class of men, called the capitalist class, whose permission he first has to obtain.

How does it come that all men do not own the means of labor?

Because the means of labor are no longer of an individual nature, but of a collective one, they having, by means, first, of the partnership, then the company, corporation, and, finally, the trust, gradually slipped from the hands of a majority of the people into the hands of a small class of men who allow the worker to labor only when it is to their (the trust's) advantage.

The man cannot work, then, because it is not to the advantage of the owners of the means of labor to have him do so?

He cannot get work for two reasons; namely, because of the introduction of machinery and the more highly organized manner of employing forces of men have rendered him useless, and because a large army of unemployed is necessary at all times to the capitalist class as a club to frighten into submission those workers whom they still allow to work.

How, then, can the man, as well as all workmen, have free access to the means of labor without being compelled to submit to humiliations unknown even to slaves and serfs of former times?

By putting the land and the means of labor in their own hands through the medium of government.
By what means can this be accomplished?
By the workmen, both those who still have work, and those who have not, organizing themselves into one grand political organization—conscious at all times that they are a class of men with no rights that the capitalist is bound to respect; that all the old political parties of whatever kind are parties of the capitalists' creation, and, no matter what their platforms or

(Continued on Page 3.)

THE PEOPLE.

Published by the Socialist Labor Party, Henry Kuhn
National Secretary, at 61 Beaman St.,
Room 306, New York.
— EVERY SUNDAY. —

TERMS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Invariably in advance:

One year\$0.50
Six months0.25
Single copy0.02

Bundle rates: Less than 100 copies, 1 Cent a copy; 100 to 500 copies, 1/2 Cent a copy; 500 or more, 1/4 Cent a copy.

As far as possible, rejected communications will be returned if so desired and stamps are enclosed.

Entered as second-class matter at the New York, N. Y., Post office on April 6, 1891.

SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888 (Presidential).....	2,068
In 1890.....	13,331
In 1892 (Presidential).....	21,157
In 1894.....	33,133
In 1896 (Presidential).....	36,564
In 1898.....	82,204
In 1899.....	85,231

There is no White Man's Burden,
Save to reform himself;
True good to seek for guerdon—
Not further power and pelf;
And if my own dear Nation
Marches to England's drum,
Her just Annihilation
Cannot too quickly come.
HENRY AUSTIN.

THE DELUSION OF PROPERTY.

The era we live in requires a special definition for "property." Time was when any material thing was "property." That time is no more. Before material things can be dignified with the term of "property," their quantity must now be ascertained.

Property affords freedom. If it does not, that thing is not property. A thousand dollars would seem to be "property"; yet to-day, he who has that amount only has not "property," he holds the delusion of property. What he holds is not large enough to afford him freedom, inasmuch as it is not enough to enable him to compete successfully with the holder of a hundred times as much. Holding a thing that looks like property, but is none in that essential of bestowing freedom on its holder, such a holder imagines he does hold property, and, accordingly, becomes an upholder of the capitalist system which is beating him down.

The deluding effect of little holdings, their effect of causing their holders to believe themselves the peers of all other property-holders, and thereby enlisting them into pillars of capitalism,—that has not passed unperceived by the large holders or capitalists. It has become a positive act of strategy among capitalists to spread property in such a manner that, while it never can be found in sufficient quantity in any one hand to become dangerous, it be found in a sufficient number of hands to insure their effective support to the capitalist tyrant. The latest instance of this strategic move is furnished just now in the West.

The directors of the Great Northern voted to increase the capital stock of the company to the amount of \$7,500,000, and sell portions of the stock to employees of the road (under certain conditions), and the balance, the bulk, to present holders of stock.

The move is timely. The Socialist, class-conscious agitation that is being carried on among the workers, is giving these eyes to see. They are finding out that they are an exploited class, having no common interests with their employers. From that they are taking a step further, moving towards the overthrow of the capitalist system. What is better calculated to again blur their vision than to render them subject to the delusion of property? Once holding stock, it is expected that these railroad men will not stop to consider that their stock is too trifling to give them a say in the administration of the company; they are expected to see simply the "property" that they hold, the profits or dividends that, in thin, consumptive rivulets, comes to them; and they will then, not only work all the harder, submit to all the more vexations, but become all the more zealous upholders of capitalism, all the more furious foes of Socialism.—This is the expectation.

Will it so happen? That remains to be seen. Certain it is that no better test there is of the effectiveness of the Socialist teachings, spread among the workers, than just this new move, this attempt to deceive the toilers with the notion of their being propertyholders, by putting little property into their hands. To the extent that the move succeeds, to that extent Socialist teaching was defective, and will have to be intensified.

Let us labor, watch and wait!

Party members and sympathizers desiring to aid the establishment of THE DAILY PEOPLE should apply to the Party organizations of their respective localities for circulars, supplies and stamps. Subdivisions may obtain same from Sections, and the Sections from their respective State Committees, and the latter, or in the absence of the latter, the Sections directly from the DAILY PEOPLE Conference.

SYRACUSE A BELATED NEW YORK.

Careful readers of THE PEOPLE will have learned from last week's official report from Syracuse, N. Y., that Erasmus Pellenz was expelled from the Section on the 26th of last month, promptly upon his acceptance of a political job from Mayor McGuire.

Under ordinary circumstances, and in ordinary times, this incident would not deserve much space. The Socialist Labor Party cannot guarantee the purity of each individual member. No organization can. The purity of an organization depends upon its collective action. Only if it condones corruption is it unworthy. The prompt expulsion of Pellenz, with the brand of traitor on his brow; mention of the fact in contrast with the conduct of both the pure and simple unions and the San Francisco Kangaroo organization that applaud the corruption of their organizations,—that would, under ordinary circumstances and ordinary times, have sufficed. But these are neither ordinary times nor circumstances.

The appointment of Pellenz by a Democratic Mayor to a political job is the last sizzle in a fizzled conspiracy of the Democratic party of this State to smash up the Socialist Labor Party.

Readers of THE PEOPLE are aware how the Democratic press howled with rage two years ago at the fact that its gubernatorial candidate was defeated while the S. L. P. held the balance of power; they are also aware of how Tammany politicians and under-strappers schemed to pull the fangs out of the S. L. P. in this city; and they surely remember the memorable midnight assault upon the Party premises on July 10, led by Tammany conscripts. Those incidents have been given in full in Henry Austin's article, "The Socialist Thorn in Tammany's Side," and subsequent events have recorded the dismal failure of the scheme in this city. Now, then, what Tammany sought to accomplish for the benefit of the Democratic party in the State, and failed, Mayor McGuire has now tried his hand in for his private benefit in particular; and his party's interests in general,—and will fail equally, has already failed in.

Village-like as Syracuse is, things leak out easily there. It has been ascertained that McGuire has the gubernatorial bee in his bonnet; that he was disappointed, and said so, at the failure of "the split in the Socialist Labor Party" to materialize, as was expected; and that, thinking something could still be done, he gave Pellenz a job for the purpose of "removing the Socialist rallying point" in Syracuse. In other words, the greater conspiracy having failed, McGuire started a little one on his own hook.

With all their sharpness in some things, the politicians are exceptionally dull and gullible. The Labor Fakir, with no following, regularly takes them in. Mayor McGuire, the dupe of the Labor Fakir, has not penetration enough to know that distinction bestowed by a politician upon a Socialist has for its only effect the cauterizing of that Socialist from the ranks. So far from McGuire having removed a rallying point for the Socialists of Syracuse, and thereby shattered the Party there, his bribe has solidified the ranks in a double sense: first in the sense that the organization has been spurred to redoubled activity by this additional homage to the "dangerous power" of the S. L. P.; and, secondly, by being rid of the alleged "rallying point," a man who never stood straight, and was thoroughly suspected by the Party.

The S. L. P. cannot be bribed with either money or jobs. The cause it pursues is too exalted, and the material interests it will itself secure for the proletariat too vast to render it liable to sops. Croker and Keenan in New Guire in Syracuse will travel. Ab-York but light the way whither Mac-solutely profit against assaults of all nature, the S. L. P. will dig the grave of and successfully bury every capitalist party in the land.

EVIDENCES OF PROSPERITY.

The Republican newspapers are hypnotizing unthinking people with an imaginary prosperity wave in order to prepare them for the sham battle which will be on next fall. It will help our own cause if we are prepared with a few facts to counteract the poison of the old parties.

The Holyoke, Mass., city physicians' report has just been made public for the fiscal year, and it contains some startling figures. These are all the more suggestive since the present city physician, Mr. McCabe, has been in office for three years, and knows what he is talking about. He says sickness among the poorer people is increasing at an alarming rate. The doctor visited during the year over 700 families who could not pay for medical aid. He also vaccinated a large number of children whose parents, apparently, were able to pay, but preferred to have the city doctor do it gratis. The doctor says "consumption is increasing alarmingly among the poor people, whom privation and want make an easy prey to the dreaded disease." There is also a very large increase of chronic diseases among the working class, for which nothing can be done, as they have not the means to attempt a remedy.

The Holyoke almshouse shows also a large increase of inmates.

SHOOTING FIRE-CRACKERS IN MASSACHUSETTS.

Capitalist papers in Boston, Worcester and other Massachusetts towns, together with their New York Kangaroo appendages, broke out again last week in jubilant articles purporting to announce the break-up of the Socialist Labor Party in Massachusetts. The special "event" which they claimed to "report" was "the capture of the State Committee of the S. L. P. of Massachusetts" by the Kangaroos, and the defection of Sections. If only rat-cellar conspiracies, backed by capitalist newspaper reports thereof, had creative potency, instead of being the imbecile impotencies that they are, the Socialist Labor Party would long have ceased to be the power that it is, and would have become the political clown that the capitalist foe would like to see it. Of course, there is nothing in the "reports"; no sensible man needs to be told that.

Are, then, the reports in these papers purely imaginative? No; a something did happen; and what that something is merits a passing line or two: just enough to characterize the feather-brained foe that presumes to measure itself with the Party, and also characterize the visionary capitalist politicians who expect assistance from such allies.

A few Kangaroos, whom the Party had dumped, together with some others of their kin still within the Party, but who knew they had reached the end of their tether and were under charges for a variety of Kangaroo virtues, foregathered in Boston, thirteen in all, behind locked doors; issued credentials to themselves; pronounced themselves the "State Committee of the Socialist Labor Party of Massachusetts"; and culminated a resolution against the Party,—in other words, shot a fire-cracker at the Party. As the Party, having polled the requisite percentage, comes wholly under the election laws of the State, the qualification for membership in the State Committee is regulated by law; and the S. L. P. State Committee, duly elected and qualified, is in possession. If the election officials of the State of Massachusetts at all take notice of this fraudulent "State Committee," it will be to clap the bars upon the bulk of its members.—And that's all there is of it.

The ignorant and corrupt element, whom the Party has been shedding since last July 10th, is so feather-brained that it imagines the report of exploding fire-crackers can disconcert the Party.

The walls of Jericho may have tumbled before the trumpet-blasts of Joshua, but the walls of the S. L. P. are not subject to incantations.

The S. L. P. Sections of Massachusetts, from Boston down, stand solid as ever, ever more organizations being added right along; the Party's State Committee is absolutely sound, absolutely safe, absolutely in the S. L. P.'s hand. There is in the Massachusetts Socialist situation not one drop of Gilead-balm—either in the shape of dues for crooks, or in the shape of "prospects" for "unappreciated genius," or yet in the shape of opportunities for Ward Healers to fish in.

The hearing at Albany before the Attorney-General, on the application of Section New York, for the dissolution of the New York Volkszeitung Corporation, as previously announced, was held on the 11th instant, and the Volkszeitung came off with a pair of purple-black eyes. It appeared with a big bunch of affidavits, and tried to swagger the Party's application forthwith out of existence. That was "no go." Then the Party demanded a copy of these affidavits; the Volkszeitung frantically (and wisely, as will appear) fought against this, and lost, thus scoring the second black eye. A full set of copies of the "Volkszeitung" affidavits is now in the Party's hands. Even a cursory inspection of them makes clear why the "Volkszeitung" so frantically sought to keep them from the Party. They will be dealt with in detail later on. For the present, the interesting fact should be announced that the lager-beer Anarchist, Justus Schwab, appears as the leading affiant in behalf of the "Volkszeitung," calling the S. L. P. a "clique," and putting himself up as authority on the S. L. P. principles, tactics, etc., etc.

More anon in detail.

POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.
The Louisville, Ky., "Courier-Journal" is full of praises for the "increasing intelligence" of the labor leaders;—exactly in the same way that the Lowell, Mass., capitalists, as recently reported in THE PEOPLE, showered their praises upon labor leader Thos. F. Connolly, of their town.

There is no amount of eulogy that the capitalist exploiters of the rank and file will not bestow upon the bell-wethers who keep the rank and file in ignorance, and in a condition to be eternally fleeced.

Albert H. Ladner, a Philadelphia capitalist politician, whose term is about to expire, appears before the public of his city for re-nomination and re-election with a closely printed four-page leaflet, containing his endorsements. Among the endorsers of this limb of labor-fleecing we find (the leaflet is for inspection in this office) the "Phila. Tageblatt Publishing Co."

To some this may seem strange; not

so to those who, besides knowing that "Tageblatt," are also familiar with the corrupt practices of the "Tageblatt's" New York double,—the "New Yorker Volkszeitung."

The latter paper has brazenly, in campaign time, published the advertisements and pictures of capitalist candidates; the former paper may well endorse a capitalist labor fleecer for office.

There is in all this nothing strange, except to those deluded beings, who imagined that the two worthies were bona fide Socialist papers. The knowing know that the two papers are and have been but impostors, who put on the mask of Socialism simply to extend their field for penny-catching. In the sacred Temple of the Labor Movement these two journalistic harlots have been trying to turn pennies, their single purpose being BUSINESS.

Well is the Socialist Labor Party rid of both concerns, together with their respective "Publishing Associations," composed of tax-paying, lager beer saloon keepers, corner grocers, usurious money-lenders, and capitalist politician-understrappers.

The Syracuse, N. Y., "Herald" feels sore all over at the way the Socialist Labor Party of its city treated the attempt of Mayor McGuire to scuttle the Party; and it gives token of its disappointment in the following squib:

Mayor Sam Jones, of Toledo now classifies himself as "a non-partisan Socialist." But the fact remains that the Socialists are the toughest partisans of the lot.

The "partisanship" of the S. L. P. will be found by the capitalist politicians, together with their many-colored hangers-on, to be the toughest sort of thing they ever ran up against.

The Irish Socialist Republican Party certainly must be a thorn in the side of the Irish-British and British-Irish skinners of the working class of Ireland. The following from the Dublin, Ireland, "Workers' Republic," is all-round interesting, and to the point besides:

Our political opponents in the North Dock Ward have succeeded, by some one of the dirty tricks peculiar to their tribe, in getting the name of our comrade Stewart struck out of the list of voters. This disqualifies him from standing as our candidate this year, and the Party has therefore to place another comrade in the post of honor. Murtagh Lyng, our new candidate, will have time to address only a few meetings before the election, but the members are expected to make up for our loss in that direction by a more energetic canvass. Our comrade Murtagh Lyng, though not so well known to the general public as Stewart, needs no recommendation to the members, who know him to be a man capable of doing credit to the class to which he belongs in any position he may be called upon to occupy. Meanwhile, we can enjoy a quiet, but hearty, laugh at the discomfiture of the tricksters who thought that by depriving one man of his vote they could avoid the danger of a Socialist Republican candidate.

The Milwaukee, Wis., "Wahrheit" (Social Democrat), in blaming what it is pleased to call the "spirit of sectarian vindictiveness," manifested by the Socialist Labor Party in its outspoken effort to destroy the "New Yorker Volkszeitung," gives notice that such conduct may soon force it to fire some dynamite bombs into the fortress of the S. L. P.

Waiving as superfluous a discussion upon whether just indignation can be termed vindictiveness, we shall address ourselves to the threatened firing of dynamite bombs.

In September, 1897, Mr. Cyrus F. Willard, then engaged in the Debs Democracy in Chicago, wrote to this office, advising that the attacks on the then Debs plan be stopped, lest, said he, bricks, which, interceding in our behalf, he was preventing from flying into our camp, should finally overcome his intercession and actually fly. To that missive he was answered in THE PEOPLE'S "Letter Box" of Sept. 12, 1897, as follows:

"CYRUS F. WILLARD, CHICAGO, ILL.—Do not by any means intercede in our behalf to 'prevent bricks from flying' this way. If the bricks are hollow, as they surely are, they'll smash themselves, not us, and will thereby aid in the work that is being performed and has been performed by a storm of such bricks hitherto: the pillorying of the intellectual and moral bankruptcy of our foes; and, on the other hand, if, indeed, the bricks should be solid, they cannot fly too soon or too numerous. There is no healthy revolutionary progress possible without the crushing of error or wrong, wherever error or wrong may be. By all means, let the bricks fly."

So, now, "Wahrheit," fire away your dynamite bombs—if you have any; by all means, fire away!

If the fortress of the Socialist Labor Party is not proof against any and all dynamite bombs combined that the enemy may fire into it, then it deserves no better than to be blown up.

Fire away!

"The Bull Pen."

Comrade Hickey's article on the Bull Pen will appear in pamphlet form on January 25th.

It has been thoroughly revised, and numerous additions have been made. It is an excellent pamphlet for agitation.

1 Copy 5 cents.
10 Copies, 30 cents.
100 Copies, \$2.50.

There is already a heavy demand for this pamphlet, and Sections should send in their orders at once.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.,
147 East 23d street, New York City.

The English translation of Karl Marx's "Eighteenth Brumaire," that some time ago ran through THE PEOPLE, is now to be had bound in an elegant volume of 78 pages, with Marx's picture as frontispiece. No Socialist, even though he be no student, and no student, even though he be no Socialist, can afford to be without it. Apply, Labor News Co., 147 E. 23d st., N. Y. City. Price, 25 cents.

BOOKS ON

SOCIALISM

And the Labor Movement.

The New York Labor News Company carries the largest and best stock of Socialist Books to be found in the United States. Below we give a partial list of books kept in stock. Inquiries relative to Socialist literature will be cheerfully answered.

Send a postal card for catalogue.

Karl Kautsky:	
The Capitalist Class.....	\$0.06
The Proletariat.....	.05
The Social Struggle.....	.05
The Co-operative Commonwealth.....	.05
Paul Lafargue:	
The Evolution of Property.....	1.00
The Rule of the Law.....	.10
The Religion of Capital.....	.05
Daniel de Leon:	
What Means this Strike?.....	.06
Reform or Revolution.....	.05
William Schor McGuire:	
Socialism.....	.05
Edward Aveling:	
The Student's Marx: An Introduction to the Study of Marx's Capital.....	1.00
The Working Class Movement in America.....	1.00
Charles Darwin and Karl Marx: A Comparison.....	.10
Mrs. Eleanor Marx: Living Socialism.....	.10
The Working Class Movement in England.....	.10
William G. Dawson:	
German Socialism and Ferdinand Lassalle.....	1.00
Prince Bismarck and State Socialism.....	1.00
Friedrich Engels:	
The Development of Socialism from Utopia to Science.....	.05
The Condition of the Working Class in England in 1844.....	1.25
H. M. Hyndman:	
The Evolution of Socialism.....	1.20
Commercial Crises of the Nineteenth Century.....	1.00
Socialism and Slavery.....	.05
H. M. Hyndman and William Morris: A Summary of the Principles of Socialism.....	.15
Karl Marx:	
Capital: A Critical Analysis of Capitalist Production.....	1.75
The same, paper.....	1.20
Wage Labor and Capital.....	.05
The Eastern Question: Letters Written on the Crime of the East.....	3.00
Free Trade: An Lecture on Free Trade and the Welfare of the Working Class.....	.25
Revolution and Counter Revolution.....	1.00
The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Napoleon.....	.25
Manifesto on the Paris Commune.....	.10
Life of Lord Palmerston.....	.35
Marx and Engels:	
The Communist Manifesto.....	.10
Belfort Hall:	
The Religion of Socialism.....	1.00
The Ethics of Socialism.....	1.00
Outline of the New Socialism.....	1.00
History of the Paris Commune.....	.25
Bax and Morris:	
Socialism, its Growth and Outcome.....	1.00
Edward Bernstein:	
Ferdinand Lassalle as a Social Reformer.....	1.00
August Bebel:	
Woman in the Past, Present and Future.....	.50
The same, paper.....	.25
Laurence Gronlund:	
The Co-operative Commonwealth.....	1.00
The same, paper.....	.50
Socialism vs. Tax Reform.....	.10
Our Destiny.....	.50
A. P. Hazzell:	
The Exploitation of Labor.....	.05
George Newman:	
New and Old Trade Unionism.....	1.00
Lucien Sarrail:	
The Socialist Almanac.....	.50
Territorial Expansion.....	.05
The American Trusts: The Middle Class; German Trade Unionism.....	.05
Taxation.....	.05
George Plechanoff:	
Anarchism and Socialism.....	.40
Quelch and Wright:	
Socialism and the Single Tax: A Debate.....	.05
H. Quelch:	
The Economics of Labor.....	.05
William Morris:	
News from Nowhere.....	.25
Selections from his Writings.....	.25
J. R. Widdow:	
The Meaning of Socialism.....	.10
Ferdinand Lassalle:	
The Workingman's Program.....	.10
What is Capital.....	.05
J. L. Joyney:	
The Socialist Catechism.....	.05
Lloyd Jones:	
Life of Robert Owen.....	1.25
Prof. Kropotkin:	
An Appeal to the Young.....	.05
Dr. Albert Schaeffle:	
Quintessence of Socialism.....	1.50
The Labor Movement in America.....	1.50
Socialism and Social Reform.....	1.50
The Fabian Essays.....	.75
Wendell Phillips:	
The Labor Question.....	.25
Lissagaray:	
History of the Paris Commune of 1871.....	.70

Labor Songs. Words and Music.

10 cents each.

The Workmen's Marseillaise.
The Hand with the Hammer. The Party's Emblem.
Down with Slavery. Words by Shelley.
On the First of May.

Socialist Labor Party Emblem Buttons.

These buttons are a brilliant red, with the "Arm and Hammer" emblem strikingly arranged.

25 cents a dozen.

We also have in stock a large number of standard books on Philosophy, Literature, Political Economy, History, Sociology, and Natural Science. Catalogues free to any address.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS COMPANY,
144 East 23d Street, New York City.

Lectures.

JAN. 20.—Thomas A. Hickey, "Uncompromising Socialism," Arion Hall, 168 Driggs Avenue, Brooklyn.
JAN. 21.—Thos. White, "The Proletariat, Past, Present and Future," at Textile Hall, Olneyville sq., Providence, R. I.
JAN. 21.—B. Hughes, "Aristocracy, British and American," at Warriner's Hall, 315 Washington street, Brooklyn.
JAN. 21.—A. Keep, "Socialism," 414 E. 71st street, New York.
JAN. 21.—Chas. Brown, "The Struggle for Freedom," at 528 E. 11th street, New York.
JAN. 21.—Chas. H. Mercer, "The Morality of Socialism," Socialist Hall, Church street, New York.
JAN. 21.—Hen. C. Librick, "Scientific Socialism," Kraft's Hall, 1213 Gratiot ave., Detroit, Mich.
JAN. 22.—Chas. Kroll, "The Wm's" (South Africa and Philippines), Columbian Hall, Main street, Taunton, Mass.
JAN. 24.—Thos. Hickey, "Uncompromising Socialism," at Club Rooms, 441 W. 29th street, New York.
JAN. 24.—"Socialism and the Division of Wealth," 1058 Payne avenue, cor. McHenry street, Cleveland, O.
JAN. 25.—Thos. Hickey, "Uncompromising Socialism," Leise's Hall, 427 12th street, Brooklyn.
JAN. 25.—Thos. Hickey, "Uncompromising Socialism," 1280 Third Avenue, New York.
JAN. 25.—Thos. Campbell, "The Labor Fakir," 184 Delancey street, New York.
JAN. 28.—T. A. Hickey, "The Lesson the Bull Pen Teaches," Warriner's Hall, 315 Washington street, Brooklyn.
JAN. 28.—Herrman Richter, "The Socialist Labor Party, its Aims and Objects," Kraft's Hall, 413 Gratiot avenue, Detroit, Mich.
JAN. 28.—Thos. Hickey, "The Socialist Movement," 414 E. 71st street, New York.
JAN. 28.—Thos. Hickey, "Capitalism and Socialism," 123 E. 11th street, New York.



Uncle Sam and Brother Jonathan.

BROTHER JONATHAN—This voting business is stupid.

UNCLE SAM—And what is sensible?

B. J.—The organizing of the working people into armies to do some shooting.
U. S.—Have you dropped the glass fad, and taken to the bullet fad?
B. J.—Call it a fad as much as you please; fact is that slaves have seen yet freed themselves.
U. S.—And whom is it you want to organize into bullet brigades?
B. J.—The working people.
U. S.—For what purpose?
B. J.—To free themselves.
U. S.—And isn't it these very working people whom you consider slaves?
B. J.—What else are they?

U. S.—Accordingly, what you propose to do is to take these slaves, who, you say, can't free themselves, and organize them into bullet brigades to do what? Why, to free themselves! You start with the theory that they, being slaves, can't free themselves, and you wind up with the plan to organize them for them to free themselves. Don't you realize that you have put both your feet into your mouth.

B. J.—What I meant was that slaves never yet have voted themselves into freedom; they can free themselves only with the bullet.

U. S.—Where did you get this notion from?

B. J. (pompously)—From history and from reasoning. Reasoning tells me that slaves have not sense enough to vote right; and history confirms the theory.

U. S.—Let's take up your "reasoning" first. The brain must direct man's actions, eh?

B. J.—That's just it. You got it now. U. S.—Can a brainless man shoot right?

B. J.—No.
U. S.—Consequently your "reasoning" amounts to this: "the wage slaves have no brains; therefore they can't give the right direction to their ballots; but bullets must be shot as straight as balloons; brains are as necessary to do this as to vote; the brainless wage slave has brains to shoot right." How do ye like it?

B. J. looks sick.

U. S.—I won't insist on an answer from you. It must be hard for a man to speak when one of his feet is in his mouth and is choking him. Now, I'll take up your history.

B. J.—My history is all right.

U. S.—We'll see about that.

B. J.—Yes, we will. Did not the Roundheads shoot down Charles I. soldiers at Marston Moor?

U. S.—Yes. But before they did that did they not elect themselves to Parliament?

B. J.—Guess they did, by Jericho!

U. S.—Having had the necessary brains to give the right direction to their ballots, by voting their foe down, they also had the necessary brains to give the right direction to their bullets by shooting their foe down when he took up arms.

B. J.—But, in the French Revolution it was otherwise. Didn't they grab the nobility by the throat and guillotine them?

U. S.—They did so. But before they did, didn't the then slave class, the bourgeoisie, elect their men to the Third Estate and take possession

"Brothers" Fight.

The Falling out in Pittsburg, Pa., of "Bro. Capital" and "Bro. Labor."

PITTSBURG, Pa., Jan. 10.—Again the city of "Dirt and Gold" is teaching object lessons on the class struggle. This time differs from all others only in its simplicity and clearness of understanding. The meek, simple weakness of the pure and simple union, on the one hand, and the clean-cut capitalist class-consciousness of the Republican-Democratic party daily papers on the other hand, was never brought before the workers in as clear a form since the Shoen's strike, when the S. T. & L. A. corralled the capitalist class and fought them single-handed.

On that occasion these same daily papers at first ridiculed the strike, but, finding teachers were at work utilizing every act as a lesson in the ever-present class struggle, they then became alarmed, and the agents of the Democratic and Republican parties in the unions were called together to break the backbone, not of the strike, but of the S. T. & L. A., for the capitalist parties readily saw that this young giant was not fighting for a few cents more a day, but for the solidarity of the working class to emancipate itself from wage slavery. The capitalist class, finding its hirelings could do nothing, they conceded the demands of the strikers, rather than have their parties, the stronghold of their private property, assaulted by Socialist economic teachings and class-conscious political action.

Hardly ten months have rolled by since that memorable battle between New Trades Unionism and the Capitalist Class, with its pure and simple leaders, played out politicians, "reverends," saloon-keepers, and rif-raf heeled all united under the pay roll of the capitalist class. Having no further duties for this awkward squad, they were disbanded until further notice. These ten months this awkward squad have been hungrily waiting for something to turn up; and, behold, the time is here when they can serve their "masters" (as the "Pittsburg Dispatch," the only paper that is not in the present trouble, said during the Wilmerding election: "The masters of the men" saw to it that the Socialists did not elect their ticket).

Well, to make a long story short, Typographical Union No. 7 came out against the Pittsburg Newspaper Publishing Association because the latter would not sign the scale of prices asking for an increase of wages and a reduction of hours for the Linotype operators, compositors and proof-readers, and a recognition of the Union. The Linotype machinists were included in the original scale, but the publishers secured from them an agreement independent of No. 7.

Then No. 7 waived jurisdiction over the Linotype machinists, hoping thereby to secure a settlement, and requested the publishers to recognize the proof-readers who were members of their union.

Then No. 7 proposed to arbitrate all the other parts of the scale, provided the proof-readers were recognized. All this the publishers successively refused.

In the meantime, the publishers, true to their class interests, united, not the Republican dailies with the Republican workers; not the Democratic or Independent dailies with their political workmen followers; no, not they, these sworn enemies (?), who at each election fulfill their duty in keeping the working class divided politically, now they organize with but one aim—to crush the workers and demonstrate again the oneness with the parties they represent in upholding the capitalist system. Now let us follow the career of the daily papers that came together, each attesting its fidelity to the others, with a bond in fifteen thousand dollars, to be forfeited on the paper's withdrawal from the fight.

First on the list, we find the "Post," the only Democratic upholder of Bryan's Free Silver and Anti-Monopoly. Its President is President of the Publishers' Association.

Then we come to the "Commercial Gazette," National Republican, leans towards the Prohibitionists and church-going Sabbatarians; is generally called the "Old Lady."

Then we have the ringster sheet, "The Times," and afternoon edition, "The News," generally known as Christ Magee's "hard luck story," he being the principal owner, besides being crowned Boss of our municipal Republican-Democratic Ring, elected to the State Senate on the Republican and Democratic tickets. He also is President of all the traction lines here, and generally runs things his own way. His pay-roll includes the principal "Labor Leaders," ward heelers, school teachers and "reverends" of Western Pennsylvania. He, accordingly, is the direct representative of the capitalists of this section, jointly with Col. Guffey, member of the Democratic National Executive Committee, controlling the Democratic State Machine, President of the Trade Dollar Mining and Milling Co., owning gold and silver mines in Colorado and Idaho, owning mines in Florida, California, Nova Scotia, etc., and a director in the Columbia National Bank.

Next comes the "Press," the "anti-Republican," owned by M. S. Quay's lieutenants, the Ring-Rotten owners of the State machine.

Then we have the "Chronicle Telegraph," anti-Quay Republican, Middle Class Taxation, National Expansion Hash.

And, last, but not least, "The Leader," politically any-old-thing-that's-got-the-price; "Workingman's friend," owned by Presbyterians, caters to Catholics; nothing is too dirty to print in the "Leader."

While this rotten array of capitalist publications had no campaign on hand, they set to work. After the combine was completed, it started to smash one and for all the Typographical Union, knowing it to be led by men who are ignorant of their economic conditions, or are too cowardly to act up to their knowledge. The combine, felt that there was no time like the present, for who can tell how long, oh Lord, will the workers allow themselves to be led by men who scab the working class at

the polls, and who preach that the interests of the capitalists and the laborers are identical?

While the union was dreaming of the "near settlement of its trouble," behold the publishers were laying in ammunition for they were "scouring the country for men to take the places of the resident printers." So the fight goes on; the papers having no opposition, they are affected very slightly in their circulation. The papers, of course, are not up to the standard, but they are subdividing their work, each publication is assisting the other in getting up the matter, and they are learning a lesson that they will hold to even after the strike is off.

The advertisers claim to have contracts which they must fill, and the first of the year will show how far the union will carry the fight. They will either drop the fight or boycott the firms who advertise in the publications. But even in the latter case, they have the frowning temple of "Justice" on the hump hanging over them with Judge White and his like itching for the opportunity to issue his injunction that places all who dare disobey in the "cooler."

True, they may be guided into political action; but that action must be of their class, guided by the knowledge of scientific Socialism, that teaches why the workers receive but seventeen percent of their total product, and the capitalist class receives eighty-three percent.

Some few years ago Typographical Union No. 7, with many others, sent delegates to a convention for "Independent Political" action. About 300 delegates were present, representing about 10,000 members. They drew up their platform, and nominated their candidates, and every man stood up and declared he would support the ticket. The Democrat and Republican representatives each wanted their candidate for Judge endorsed, and at last they decided to endorse neither, nor to put up one themselves. This seemed to be the only bone of contention, for on election day their ticket received less than 150 votes in the whole county, and the majority of these were personal votes from friends of the candidates.

One may ask what about the 300 pledged votes from the delegates, and the votes from the labor lodges that the candidates visited?

Do you smell the nigger in the woodpile? A traitor that deserves the name of Labor Fakir. Such men as these are a disgrace to the labor movement. If there are any that are honest, let such stand up and be counted. There is nothing to it but to unite with the Socialist Labor Party and the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance; work with the revolutionary spirit that Socialism only begets.

EDWARD MESSER,
1639 Forbes Ave.

The Phenomenon of the Social Democracy.

(Continued from Page 1.)

In the cities of Brockton and Haverhill in which this whine and cry have not served to dishearten his fellow-workers. He is now on his last run, and so he desperately pools his issue with the middle class to save himself.

These two cities were at one time the stamping ground of the populists, the nationalists and the greenbackers. All the Socialism contained in the S. D. P. comes filtered through these movements, and instead of being a proletarian party, it is a middle class party, which must depend upon its power to mislead the workers. It seems to be nearer to their interests than either the Republican or Democratic party, and, therefore, it may mislead them for some time yet. As it is a direct offshoot from the Democratic party, and as it appeals to the same interests, it must ultimately end by joining with it as did the Populists.

Fusion.

Since circumstances and the incidents of growth forced the Socialist Labor Party to revise itself, those whom we cast off have been wandering around looking for a place to rest. They know that they are no part of the revolutionary movement, so they swallow their convictions and beg the S. D. P. to take them in. This it is not willing to do, as it recognizes in those worn out and corrupt ex-Socialists the very thing that will serve to clog its wheels.

It also recognizes the fact that its platform and methods are sufficient for its own ends; and that any incorporation of the real working class spirit, even that coming through these broken down S. D. P. men, would be of great injury. A fusion can seldom take place without results that will be of lasting detriment to the fusers. In this case it is a recognition of the fact on both sides that unless a union takes place neither side can stand. If that is so, then neither side is right. If both are right, and yet for a mere increase in party membership, certain principles and tactics are thrown aside by both, standing upon a wrong platform, will be as weak and impotent as they were alone. A matter of origin is worth considering, and, as the S. D. P. is born of capitalism, but goes down to the base of the matter and takes the dispossessed class, the producers, as its source, while the S. D. P. takes the necessity of a survival of a historically useless class as its starting point, then of necessity they are divided in aims, as they are divided in methods. Thus, there can be a compromise, but no union; there can be a vitiation of the strength of both, but no progress.

We are told to look at Germany. We look at Germany, and we see Bernstein, insignificant as an individual, if you will, but still a portent of ill to come. We see that that great party must also look to its organization, that it must clean itself of the last taints of bourgeoisdom before, despite its numbers can be a real power. The theologians tell us that only the pure of heart, the ones who disguise neither from themselves nor their maker their real intentions, can enter heaven. So it is with parties: they must be straight lines, and any deviation, any turning back for the sake of others than their own, means that they are not pure of intention, not fit for the work on which they started.

We have one road to follow. We cannot compromise, but we can work; once convince men that a given line of action is for their benefit, and you cannot keep them apart.

OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Henry Kuhn, Secretary, 61 Beekman street, N. Y.

NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS (pro tem.)—Thomas Curran, Secretary, 64 Hanover street, Providence, R. I.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF CANADA—A. B. Barker, Secretary, 860 Richmond street, London, Ont.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS COMPANY—147 East 23rd street, New York City. (The party's literary agency.)

NOTICE.—For technical reasons, no party arrangements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesdays, 10 p. m.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Regular meeting with P. Murphy in the chair; all members present. The financial report for the week ending Jan. 13th showed, receipts \$45.36; expenditures \$41.22.

Reports received from Massachusetts to the effect that Usher, Mrs. Avery and Goldstein had entered into a conspiracy to capture the legal S. L. P. State Committee as organized under the State Caucus Law; that the attempt was a fraudulent one, bolstered up with forged credentials, held by fake delegates; that the whole move would be brought before the Election Commissioners, and the criminals dealt with according to law. A letter from D. Goldstein, indulging in the usual Kangaroo declamations, and purporting to come from the fake State Committee, was read and tabled. The Secretary reported that he had sent a copy of said letter to the organizer of Section Boston, as a basis for charges against those concerned.

The Massachusetts Party State Committee, a body distinct from the legal committee, sent word of the election of Alfred E. Jones, 200 Bradford street, Everett, Mass., as the Secretary of such committee. Sections in Massachusetts will please send all communications pertaining to the business of the State Committee to Comrade Jones, and under no circumstances send anything to L. D. Usher, of Worcester.

Section San Jose, Cal., reported the expulsion of J. R. Cole for Kangarooism. Section Seattle, Wash., reported the expulsion of E. Lux, for treasonable conduct. Section Olathe, Colo., reported expulsion of Thos. I. Ash and E. V. Burrell, the former for Kangarooism and both for working for other parties.

Section Louisville, Ky., reported election of officers and of a new State Committee.

Further nominations for place of holding National Convention of the S. L. P.:

NEW YORK.—Pueblo and Olathe, Colo.; Baltimore, Md.; Richmond, Va.; New Haven and West Haven, Conn.; Rochester, N. Y.; St. Paul, Minn.; Seattle and Tacoma, Wash.; Detroit, Mich.; San Jose and Riverside, Cal.; Pawtucket and Central Falls, R. I.; Cincinnati, O.

PITTSBURG, Pa.—Salineville, O.; Jacksonville, Ill.; Wilkesburg, Stoneboro, and McKeesport, Pa.; Louisville, Ky.; New Britain, Conn.; Everett, Mass.

CHICAGO, ILL.—Phoenix, Ariz.; Pasco, Wash.; Salt Lake City, Utah.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—College Point, N. Y.; Buffalo, N. Y.; Worcester, Mass.

DENVER, COLO.—Watson, Wash.

CLEVELAND, O.—Akron, O.

NEWARK, N. J.—Passaic, N. J.

ST. LOUIS, MO.—Collinsville, Ill.

A charter was granted to New Section (Danish) at South Omaha, Neb.

JOHN J. KINALLY,

Recording Secretary.

A Call for Nominations.

The Sections of the Socialist Labor Party are hereby called upon to make nominations for a delegate to represent the S. L. P. at the International Socialist Congress, which will be held at Paris, France, during the summer of the current year.

Organizers of Sections will please submit this call at the next regular meeting, and report the nominations made to the undersigned not later than Feb. 3d, 1900. To defray the expenses of such delegate, an assessment of 15c per capita will have to be levied for the collection of which a special stamp will be issued by the National Executive Committee.

For the National Executive Committee, S. L. P.

HENRY KUHN, National Secretary,
61 Beekman St., New York City.

MASSACHUSETTS.

SECTION STONEHAM.—The following officers were elected for the ensuing term at the regular meeting of the Section on Jan. 5, 1900: Organizer—James J. Dorlin. Financial Secretary—Frank Macdonald. Treasurer—Edgar J. C. McKee. Secretary—William J. Corcoran, Jr. Literary Agent—Fred E. Buker. Auditors—James T. Mullen, Louis Breitenstein.

Grievance Committee—Elmer E. Waite, Charles Poole, Henry Meagher.

The Section meets on Fridays at 7.30 p. m., at S. L. P. headquarters, Lasters, Hall. After the business meeting a discussion follows. Readers of THE PEOPLE are invited to attend and to participate.

STATE COMMITTEE.

Minutes of meeting of the State Committee of the Socialist Labor Party of Massachusetts, held in Room 1, 724 Washington st., Boston, Jan. 8, 1900.

Called to order by Geo. R. Pearce, of Lynn. Pearce was unanimously chosen chairman pro tem. Jer. O'Fihelly, of Abington, was chosen Secretary pro tem.

Voted to notify in writing L. D. Usher, of Worcester; C. H. Willey, of Worcester; L. S. Oliver, of Westfield, and G. E. Vincens, of Springfield, legally elected members of the State Committee from the first and second districts, respectively, that the meeting was called to order and invite their attendance.

Voted that Alfred Jones, of Everett, and Arthur L. Winneck, of Chelsea, be a committee to deliver the notice. The committee having done as directed reported that they were not allowed to notify each individually, but that they had left the notice with the chairman of a meeting at which those members were engaged.

Voted to accept the report and proceed to organize the Massachusetts State Committee of the S. L. P. for 1900.

Voted to elect a committee of three to examine credentials. Wm. H. O'Brien, of Woburn; Alfred E. Jones and Arthur L. Winneck, of Chelsea, were elected.

The committee reported having received and examined credentials from—Walter Deans, of Lynn; John E. Eustice, of Peabody; Frank McDonald, of Stoneham; James J. Devlin, of Stoneham; Wm. H. O'Brien, of Woburn; Geo. R. Pearce, of Lynn; Arthur L. Winneck, of Chelsea; Jer. O'Fihelly, of Abington, and Alfred E. Jones, of Everett, and recommended that the credentials be accepted and the members seated.

Voted to accept the report and seat the members.

Geo. R. Pearce was the unanimous choice of the committee for permanent chairman; Jer. O'Fihelly was unanimously elected Secretary; and Alfred E. Jones unanimously elected treasurer.

Voted that the Secretary send a copy of the minutes to the N. E. C. of the S. L. P., at 61 Beekman street, for publication in THE PEOPLE and "Arbeiter-Zeitung," the official organs of the S. L. P.

Voted to adjourn subject to the call of the Chairman and Secretary.

JER. O'FHEILLY, Secretary.

MICHIGAN.

DETROIT.—The Section meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday, at Kraft's Hall, 313 Gratiot ave. NEW YORK CITY.—The Socialists of the west side have opened headquarters at 441 W. 29th street. We will hold our first meeting Jan. 21, with Comrade F. A. Hickey as speaker and hope all comrades and sympathizers living in the neighborhood will attend. Our large hall, populous neighborhood and other conditions will be utilized to carry on a strong and vigorous fight against capitalism and all its evils. Other districts will have to look to their laurels, for when the gains of the campaign of 1900 have been counted, those of the west side will not be among the least.

MINNESOTA.

STATE COMMITTEE.

Regular meeting, Jan. 8. All the members present. Pearce was chairman. Committee to examine Lee's accounts reported, showing that he was still indebted to the committee in the sum of \$150. Communications were received from Helena, Duluth, New York, Red Wing, San Francisco, Milwaukee, Carlton, St. Paul. The Treasurer's semi-annual report showed total receipts of \$157.35; disbursements, \$136.52; balance on hand, \$41.41. C. Hansen and Johnson were elected auditors. Section Minneapolis reported having at a special meeting reversed the action recognizing the Kangaroo N. E. C., and having expelled Algonquin and G. B. Leonard. The Section had voted 12 to 9 in favor of dissolving the S. P. A. It was ordered that the State Secretary submit to all Sections and members-at-large the following question: 1. For what offices on the State ticket shall nominations be made? 2. Shall they be made by Convention or by general vote? Receipts, \$2.30; appropriations, \$1.62.

HAMMOND, Sec'y.

MINNEAPOLIS.—The following resolutions were adopted Dec. 7:

WHEREAS, At the last regular meeting of Section Minneapolis, a minority faction took advantage of being temporarily in the majority to adopt resolutions recognizing the Kangaroo executive at 184 William street, New York, as the N. E. C. of the S. L. P., and pledging the support of the Section to the Kangaroo newspapers, to wit, the so-called "People" of 184 William street, New York, the "Workers' Call" of Chicago, and the "Class Struggle" of San Francisco.

RESOLVED, By Section Minneapolis, S. L. P., that the resolutions adopted at its last regular meeting be adopted by unanimous means, the intent to put the Section in a false position, and do not vote the sentiment of the Section, and the Section will not be bound by them, and hereby repudiates them.

RESOLVED, That Section Minneapolis is well aware that the N. E. C. of the S. L. P. is located at 61 Beekman street, New York, and has no knowledge of any party agency whatever at 184 William street, New York.

RESOLVED, That Section Minneapolis is glad to give all the support it can to the Party press, and will therefore sustain to the extent of its power the national Party organ, THE PEOPLE, published at 61 Beekman st., New York, recognizing at the same time the fact that it can hardly be said to "give" anything when it receives large value for all moneys paid in for subscriptions.

NEW JERSEY.

UNION COUNTY.—There will be a meeting of Section Union County, comprising Branches Elizabeth and Plainfield, at George Quinn's Hall, 247 Elizabeth avenue, on Sunday, Jan. 21st, at 2 o'clock p. m. All comrades are requested to attend this meeting; business of importance will be transacted.

RANDOLPH S. MILLER,
Secretary Union County Committee.

OHIO.

CINCINNATI.—The following officers were elected at the regular meeting held Jan. 14: Organizer, Fred Pandorf; Rec. Secretary, Harry Benjamin; Fin. Sec'y, Sam. Winaver; Treasurer, George E. Jones; Literary Agent, Louis Halbus; Grievance Committee, Fred Pandorf, Harry Benjamin, Geo. E. Jones.

All comrades and readers of THE PEOPLE who reside in the 11th Ward and will join a branch of the S. L. P. to be organized there, are requested to call or communicate with the undersigned.

FRED. PANDORF,

83 Mulberry street, Organizer.

Machinists' L. A. 274.

NEW YORK, Jan. 15.—At the meeting of the Machinists' Conference Board it was decided to have the minutes of same published in THE PEOPLE.

After favorable reports of delegates a question came up for discussion if it was possible to employ a permanent organizer and how to collect funds to keep same on the road. The outcome was that the Conference Board set a committee to draw up a set of rules for said board, a copy of which is to be sent to every Local in the Alliance of metal workers. Comrades G. Luck, E. Persson, and K. Wallberg were elected. Said committee was also instructed to ask outside Locals if they would go with the N. Y. Locals in forming an international body of iron and metal workers, and if in favor, let the C. B. know as soon as possible in order to set an organizer to work. It was thought advisable to have this published in THE PEOPLE as it would reach some comrades who are not in the Alliance tho' of the trade, and thereby let them know that the machinists in N. Y. and N. J. are not asleep.

K. WALLBERG,

238 E. 10th street, Sec'y pro tem.

Keep an eye on your wrapper. See when your subscription expires. Renew in time. It will prevent interruption in the mailing of the paper and facilitate work at the office.

S. L. P. Supplies.

Constitution with Platform in English, German and Polish, per 100 50c.

Constitution in Jewish, without Platform, per 100 40c.

Due cards, per 100 40c.

Application cards (English and German), per 100 40c.

Rubber seals made to order, with Arm and Hammer, each 67c.

Orders should be accompanied with cash. It implies an unnecessary waste of time and money to keep credit accounts for such small amounts, often sending a number of bills before collection is made, which time and money can be put to a better purpose.

Address all orders to Henry Kuhn, 61 Beekman street, New York City.

To Henry Kuhn, National Secretary S. L. P., 61 Beekman street, New York City.

The undersigned herewith pledges himself to contribute the sum of \$..... for the establishment of a daily Socialist newspaper in the City of New York, on or about July 1, 1900, said sum to be paid in full by May 1, 1900. I herewith send \$..... on account, and promise to pay the balance in monthly installments of \$..... (or in full) on or before May 1, 1900.

Name.....

Address.....

P. S.—Contributors will either clip or copy this form of pledge. Only such pledges can be considered as made in good faith as are accompanied by part payment.

Telephone Call, 1523 Spring.

JULIUS HAMMER
Pharmacist..

304 & 306 RIVINGTON ST.,
COR. OF LAW ST.,
NEW YORK

Authorized Agents for THE PEOPLE.

AKRON, OHIO: W. Garrity, 120 Union street.

ALBANY, N. Y.: Geo Du Bois, 20 Wilbur street.

BOSTON, MASS.: C. Croaswell, 1597 Washington street.

BUFFALO, N. Y.: B. Reinsteint, 521 Broadway.

CANTON, OHIO: Wm. S. Poorman, 1225 E. North street.

CATSKILL, N. Y.: E. Elmer Carter.

CENTRAL FALLS, R. I.: John P. Curran, 525 Dexter street.

CHICAGO, ILL.: H. Sale, 1104 Twelfth street, 2d floor.

CHICOPEE FALLS, MASS.: John J. Kelly, 62 Grattan street.

CINCINNATI, OHIO: M. Strauss, "Elbe," Flat 5.

CLEVELAND, OHIO: P. C. Christiansen, 904 Professor street.

CLINTON, IOWA: Fritz Feldner, 31 Carl street.

COLLINGSVILLE, ILL.: E. C. Matson, 102 Howe street.

COVINGTON, OHIO: Jos. T. Brecka.

DETROIT, MICH.: Henry J. Kastner, 112 Hainbridge street.

DENVER, COLO.: P. Friesema, Jr., 238 Ard street.

DULUTH, MINN.: J. H. Martens, 124 W. 10th avenue.

DULUTH, MINN.: Ed. Kriz, 614 Garfield avenue.

ELIZABETH, N. J.: G. T. Petersen, 222 2nd street.

ELK, PA.: Fred. Uhlmann, 656 W. 19th street.

GLOVERSVILLE, N. Y.: F. B. Stone, 222 Main street.

HARTFORD, CONN.: Fred. Fellerman, 2 State street, top floor.

HAVERHILL, MASS.: Ernest C. Peabody, 113 Elm street.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.: J. T. L. Remley, 243 Station street.

JOHNSTOWN, N. Y.: Lewis Hoeckel, 125 N. Perry street.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA.: J. De Castro, 711 W. Railroad street.

LEADVILLE, COLO.: M. E. White.

LINCOLN, NEB.: Emil Hittig, Room 8, Sheldon Block.

LONG ISLAND CITY, N. Y.: J. Luxenburg, 73 Monson street.

LOS ANGELES, CAL.: Louis Rentelmann, 203 1/2 South Main street, Room 7.

LOUISVILLE, KY.: Thos. Sweeney, 1460 High street.

LYNN, MASS.: Robert Owen, 224 West Manchester street.

LYNN, MASS.: J. F. Coyle, 306 Washington street.

MALDEN, MASS.: John Flynn, 332 Lynch street.

MALDEN, MASS.: Philip Rowland, 123 Malden street.

MILWAUKEE, WIS.: Rochus Babick, 215 Lloyd street.

NEWARK, N. J.: H. Carless.